

To Whom It May Concern:

Sack-O-Grande Acroport, formerly Harbican Airport, located just north of the town of Katy Texas, was purchased in 1996 with the intent of providing a full time aerobatic practice location in the Houston area. An aerobatic waiver was issued by the Houston FSDO in 1997 and has been renewed and maintained to present date. Since this time, the airport provides a common and un-congested location for aerobatic pilots to congregate and practice flying. For this purpose, the present location is ideal, as it is easily accessible by pilots from the southwest region of the United States, yet it is isolated enough to provide a "safe haven" to limit airspace incursions when it is active.

The airport has been responsible to the community, providing access for the interested public to enjoy the flying displays and learn about the sport. The airport has also provided a convenient location for charity air shows that have benefited less fortunate communities of Houston.

More importantly, the airport has been safe; the primary objective for the waiver is to create a safe location for pilots to practice aerobatic maneuvers, thereby providing a safety net to avoid any accidents in the air. Accordingly, Sac-O-Grande has come to be recognized in the region by flight schools that are welcome to visit so that the students and instructors understand the waiver and the type of activity within the aerobatic box. As a result, the flight schools have been extremely courteous in working with Sack-O-Grande in communicating and avoiding the area while the acrobatic waiver is active. This has created a safe zone protecting both the general aviation and aerobatic pilots from each other.

It is important that the present altitude of 3500 feet, as outlined in the waiver, remains in existence to provide a safe altitude above the ground for aerobatic pilots. The proposed changes to the Class B would lower the base to an altitude that would jeopardize the safety margins for both beginner and experienced pilots. If this were to be allowed, the time spent establishing this airport as a responsible contributor to the community and a "safe haven" in the regional airspace will have been wasted without any benefit in doing so. I urge this consideration.

Very Truly

E. Bradford Clark